The World of Business.

New York, March 29. Wall street review: The depression in the markets for securities on the closing days of last week, consequent upon the Supreme Court de cision in the Transmissouri Freight Assocustion case, was increased today by news from the West about rate catting and also by advices from London and the conti-ment of a more warlike feeling on the Lastern question. The bears had the upper hand and pushed their advantage with vigor, being encouraged by the receipt of numerous seifing orders by commission houses from Philadelphia, Boston, Chicare and other cuies. The decline in price ranged from 1-2 to 3 1-4 per cent, and as the downward movement made progress many stop orders were executed. Missouri Pacific was singled out for special at tack on the reports current that the coming by making a reduction from the regular schedule charges on eggs.

Other marked dedines in the early trading were 1.3-4 in Burlington and Quincy, 2 1-8 in Northwest, 1 5-8 in St. Paul, 1 1-2 in Jersey Central, 1 3-4 in Sugar, 3 1-2 in American Spirits preferred, 2 in Atomson preferred, 1 7-8 in Tobacco, 1 1-2 in Omahu, and 1 3-4 in New York During the attermoon, in adduton to the denials concerning Missouri Pacific, came the February statement of the Chicago, Burington and Quincy, Which showed a large increase in surplus as com-pared with last year, and the amounce ment of an advance of 1-16a1 8 cent in certain grades of refined sugar.

The advances that followed were equal to 1 3-4 in Lake Shore, 2 1-2 in American Spirits, preferred, 1 3-4 in Jersey Central, and I-1 to I-1-4 in the remainder of the list. Near the close, however, the Grangers developed renewed weakness, but the remainder of the list held firm and the improvement noted was well The Grangers closed with only fractional recoveries and in the case of Rock Island the final sales were at the lowest of the day. Net changes show declines of 1-4a2 5-8 per cent, Rock Island leading. Lackawanna gained 3-4; Man-hattan, 1-2, and Jersey Central, 1-8 per Total sales of stock were 328,346 shares, of which 52,000 were Sugar, 37,200 St. Paul, 19,200 Chicago Gas, 19.000 Tobacco, 16,800 Missouri Pa-cific, 16,100 Reading, 15,600 Barlington and Quincy, and 11,500 Atchison, pre-

The bond market was active and weak today. The transactions aggregated \$1 602,000 Ann Arbor 4s fell 1 1-4 to 78 1-4; American Bock and Improvemen 5s, 1 to 114; Atchison General 4s, 3-4 to 82; do , ndj., 4s, 1 3-8 to 43; Chesapeake and Onio General 41-2s, 1 to 72; Rich mond and Alleghany, 1st consols, 2 to 100 1-2 Chesspeake and Northern Pacific 1st 5s, 5-8 to 41; Cleveland and Canton 1st 5s, 3 to 71; Hocking Valley Con., 5s, 8 to 70: Iron Mountain General, Con., 5s 1 to 731-2; Kansas and Texas, 4s, 15-8 to 82 1-4; Lake Shore Heg 1st 7s, 21-4 to 110 3-4; Norfolk and Western, Con., 4s, 11-2 to 72 1-2; Oregon Short Line, 6s, certs. 11-4 to 115; Rochester and Pittsburg. 1st 6s, 1 3-1 to 122 1-4; Rock Island cou pon 1sts, I to 130; do., deb. 5s, 1 1-2 to 95: St. Louis Southwestern 1st, 4s, 1 t St. Louis Scatthwestern 1st, 4s, 1 te
 f7; do., 2d 4s, 3 1-2 to 20 1-2; St. Paul and Omaha con. 6s, 1 1-4 to 130; St. Paul and Minnesota div. 5s, 1 1-2 to 112; St. Paul gen. 4s, series A, 1 1-4 to 100 3-4; Southern Rallway con. 5s, 1 7-8 to 87-1-2 87 3-4; Texas Pacific 1sts, 1 to 88; do 2nds, 1 1-2 to 18 8-4a19 1-4; Wabash deb series B, 2 7-8 to 19 1-2; do. 1st 5s, 1 3-104; do. 2nds, 1 to 65, and Wis. Cent

New York Stock Market. Corrected dally by W. B. Hibbs & Co Bankers and Brokers. Members of to

A. 1. Stock Exchange.	142	L F 8	treet		Traders' 95	
(o. H	leh. 1	LOW.	Clos.	Lincoln	1
American Spirits	2140	1 14	10	10%	Onto 90	1
American Spirits will	09	2787	286.37	276	SAVE DEPOSIT AND TRUST COMPANIES.	
Am. Sugar Refinery	120 42	11030	25 D.W	1002	Nat. Sate Deposit and Trust 113	1
American Sugar, pfd	1100/2		400.72		Wash Loan and Trust 1195	9
American Sugar, pro	554	7034	20.45	***	Amer. Security and Trust 140	î
American Tobacco. American Cotton Oli Archison, Top. & S. F. Atch., Top., and S.F.pfd. Baltimore & Onio Bay State Gas.		3754	***	**	Wash, Safe Deposit	ā
American Cotton Co.	30	30	0.1/	100	Tracing Court Conference of the Conference of th	•••
Alchison, Lop, a S. F	200	700	187	202	RAILROAD STOCKS.	
Atch., Top.and S. F. piu.	37.19.1	101	10.34	3109	Capital Traction Co	ij
Baltimore & Omo	2 1772	93.	917	100	Metropolitau 108	1
Hay State Gas	1072	460.5	10.75	100	Cotumbia 50	×
					GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT STOCKS.	
Canada Pacific Chesapeake & Ohio	1945	440	1537	15%		
Chesapeake & Ohio	150 E	100	1979	20%	Washington Gas 43%	. 3
C. C. C. & St. Janes	27.00	24.70	400.00	21.14	Georgetown Gas 45 U. S. Electric Light 90	6
C., C., C. & St. L Chic. Bur. & Quiney Chicago & Nothwin	100	100	1000	100	U. S. Electric Light '90	
Chicago & Nother h	THO .	17.72	20029	100	INSURANCE STOCKS,	
Chicago Gas	21.78	40	70.4	4.4	Firemen's	
C. M. and St. P.	**	14	18.0	24.7%	Franklin	*
C. M. & St. Panl, pid C., R. L and P	27.55	222		27.00	Pranking	
C., B. L and P	W- DA	102.54	(00) _a	61.3	Corcoran 515	
Consolidated Gus	100%	10025	104	1956	Corcoran	٠
Del Lac. & West	104	154%	104	191	Potomac	
Del. & Hudson	100%	100%	105%	108	Aclington	141
Denv. & R. Grande, pfu.	****	4000	2277	****	German American	œ,
Effe	1.0	38	13	13	National Union 19%	13
Denv. & R. Grande, pfu. Erie General Electric	20%	31.4	30%	80%	German American National Union 1956 Columbia 113	- 2
Additional or and the second second					Riggs	
Lake shore	160	163	1161	163	People for an annual part of the part of t	
Louisville & Nashville	50	357.74	41%	45:	Lincoln 85%	
Met, Traction		10.000		****	Commerci -1	
Met, Traction	2,872	18%	5414	8436	TITLE INSURANCE STOCKS,	
Michigan Cen	22.00				Rear Estate Title	
Mo. Pacific	17.8	117.56	1456	1/36	Columbia Title	ü
M., K. & T. pid National Lead Co	mil 14	26	25%	20%	Washington Title	
National Lead Co	22.4	2.30	2.3	21%	District	
National Lead Co., pfq. New York Central	75.18		****	****	TELEPHONE STOCKS.	
New Jersey Central	8.	63%	81	85		
New York Central	野湖	9.	19650	97	Pennsylvania	
Partmern Pacificances	4124	14	11154	1105	American Gra; hophone 35	I.
Northern Pacine p.d	:33	-4	2336	314	American Graphophone, pfd 98	٠,
Unterio & Western		Toronto.	****		December Grandsone, partiage	ď
Pociac Mail	255.34	2.3	2000	25.5	Pneumatic Gus carriage	3
Phi a. & Reading	10	16136	216a		MISCELLANEOUS STOCKS,	
Southern Hallway, pfd	2 30	2.5	21%	16	Mergenthaler Linotype (new) *121 %	11
Texas Pacific				100	Lanston Monotype 7	
Tenu Coal & Iron	24%	146	353	35		-1
Tenn, Coal & Iron Union Pacific	-34	Birt	1,00	274	Great Falls Ico	12
D. r. Leather pid	Tiber	Total	853	00 A		8
Walanda setel	10	130	170	1236	*Ex, Div.	
Wabash pfd. Waccing & L. Erie	1	***	***	10.78		
W. & L. E. pild.	****				Maria de la companya del companya de la companya del companya de la companya de l	gy.
West, Umon Te , Co	-	80617	2427	801	Chicago, March 29Wheat was dul	1
Plinderphia Traction	100	Owner,	55/8	000	day, but withal strong. The activity	
A STREET, DANK AT ACTION.	B-110.W	****			The state of the s	/61

Despite the opinion expressed by many of the shrewdest men of the street, that a knock lown blow by any means; that Its real harm need not be great to rail-road interests, the stock market continues to evince an almost startling weakness. Day after day now, with a sickening regmarity, prices have dropped further and more people have gone to the bear side of the market. This condition of things shows better than almost any object lesson of the street for many months what a ficule lot of people the ordinary traders are; how dominated by their sentiments, and especially their fears. At the beginning of the Administration these same peo ple that are now selling the market were buying all along the line in the expectation of a fine boom. They kent it up and carried It further than there was any reason to.
It was the estimate of the writer of this column that the market was four or five points higher than it should be before this Transmissouri thunderclap struck it. All this was pointed out very carefully several times in this column, with the added suggestion that as the outside public-was not buying the market was destined to have a drop. I have consulted with a great many people who study markets and traders time, and most of them are of the osinion that almost the whole of this had dump is nothing more than the reaction from too high prices.

This business may go on for a day or so longer. One cannot tell just how frightened the outside investing public may become, and just how much they will contime to "throw their gold into the sea lest it carry them down." But it would seem, and I have good assurances of it, that the bottom has about been reached, and that very shortly now the thing will

Chicago, Burlington and Quincy went below 70 yesterday, before it stopped on its downward course, and had a slight This stock has gone further and fared worse than almost any other on the list. Perhaps this was to be ex-

pected. However, the report of the company which came in yesterday was fairly encouraging.

Mr. Lindblom, Siisby's correspondent in Chicago, says that it is the general be lief that the Western railroads will main-tain rates. A meeting of the efficers of the various roads was held at the offices of President Pugitt, of the Northwest, yesterday, and the reports from the meet ing were most faverable

The February earnings of Atchison show a gross decrease of \$16,000, and a net decrease of \$128,000. The surplus after the taxes and rentals were paid shows a decrease of \$125,000.

Missouri Pacific had the worst decline of the day yesterday, something like 3 points, before it had a slight rally. There was a story about that the road had begun rate cutting. George Gould emphatically denied this, and things picked up some-what. Missouri Pacific should have a good rise shortly, I am told, on the general con-

Sugar was down to 110 last Saturday and did not get any lower today, or very little. Sugar is no harder to guess than Bankers and Brokers. Members of the the rest of the market just at present, and N. Y. Stock Exchange. 1421 F street. if you must speculate, there are those who would advise your buying Sugar If there is another slump today, for a short turn

Attwood, Violet & Co. have this to say with regard to the Mississippi River floods on Cotton:

the opinion that the amount of cotton in jeopardy in position of overflow on both sides of the Mississippi, its entire length, is about 1,000,000 bales. At the present moment they estimate the amount in danger at 400,000. But there is sufficient time if rain ceases to make a good crop. Aside from the question of overflow, the crop is undoubtedly backward, including the northern portion of Texas. On the whole, the present situation is good for the bulls. There has been a slow, dull market since noon, and little disposition to trade on either side. Traders, too, would rather buy than sell."

Washington Stock Market, .

Sales-Capital Traction, 6 at 52 1-2; Metropolitan Railroad, 3 at 109 1-4; Washington Gas, 10 at 44 3-8; American Graphophone, 200 at 8 3-4; Mergenthaler Lino-

	type, 5 at 122 1-4; 10 at 122.		
	After Call-Lincoln National I		216
	102 1-4		
*	GOVERNMENT BONDS.	20126	Ask
		Bid.	
à.	U. S. Cs. R 190 Q J	110%	111
e.	U. S. 4's, C. 1997 Q J	10:11	124
	U. S. 5's, 1904 Q F	114	174
Ð,		TOO I	\$190
o:	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOND		
c	5s 1899 "20-year Funding"	2162	
	0s 1932 "So year Funding" gold 7s 1901, "Water Stock" currency 7s 1902, "Water Stock" currency.	1.0	*****
3	7s 1901, "Water Stock" currency	111	
	7s 1993, " " ater Stock" currency.	11136	
	"Funding" currency 2.678	10834	****
ũ.	MISCELLANEOUS BONDS		
	Met. R R 5s, 19-5	113	118
	Met R R Coav. ts	121	
2	Met, E R Cert. of Indebtedness		
6	Belt R R 5s, 1921	12.00	
31	Eckington R R	80	
	Columbia R R 6's, 1914	1.7	
	Wash Gas Co. Ser A, 6's, 1902-27	114	*****
3	Wash Gas Co. Ser B, 68, 1101-19	315	*****
60	Ches and Pot Tel 5's, 1896-1981	1:0	
1		100	****
	Am Sec & Tro's, A and O. 780	100	*****
	Wash Market Co 1st 6's, 1902-1911,	100	
	Wash Market Co imp 0's, 12-27	109	*****
2	Wash Market Colimpos, 12-1	109	*****
	Wash Market Co ext'n 6's, 11 - 2' Masonie Hall Association 7's, 1906	103	****
	Wash Lt Inf 1st 6's, 1901	95	35555
		200	****
	NATIONAL BANK STOCKS.		
	Bank of Washington	260	
	The second section of the sect	404 - 40	49.70

	sonic Hall Association 7s, 1906, ash Lt Inf 1st 6's, 1901		
Rat	NATIONAL BANK STOCKS.		
Bar Me Cer Far Sec Cit Col Car We Tra	nk of Washington nk of Republic tropolitias atral mets' and Mechanics' and teal n wida pital st End tders' coin	280 280 200 170 182 116 125 148 103 95	211 305 131 110 98 105
Ohl	10	90	100
Na: Wa Am	VE DEPOSIT AND TRUST COMPA I. Sate Deposit and Trust I. Sh. Loan and Trust I. Security and Trust II. Sate Deposit	118 11956 140	115 125 145
	RAILROAD STOCKS.		
Cat	ital Traction Co	*50 108	109

C	400	4500	
SAFE DEPOSIT AND TRUST COMP. Nat. Sate Deposit and Trust Wash. Loan and Trust Amer. Security and Trust Wash, Safe Deposit	118	115	
RAILROAD STOCKS.			
Capital Traction Co	108	58 109%	
GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT STOCK	188.		
Washington Gas	43%	45	
Georgetown Gas. U. S. Electric Light	45 490	91%	
INSURANCE STOCKS.			
Firemen's		*****	
Franklin	****		
3/etropolitan	112230	*****	
Corcorna	0136	*****	
Potomac		*****	

INSURANCE STOCKS,		
Firemen's		
Franklin		
Metropolitan	Deelin.	
Corcoran		
Potomae		
Arlington		*****
German American		Tree at
National Union		
Columbia	1134	13
Higgs	7.5	65
People's	5.4	
Lincoln		
Commerci - L	4.54	
TITLE INSURANCE STOCKS,		
Real Estate Title	CAC	
Columbia Title	- 5	45
Washington Title		8
District		- 8
TELEPHONE STOCKS.		
Pennsylvania	39	
Chesapeake and Potemac.		*****
American Gra; hopbone.		61
American Grannophone, pfd	9%	163
Pneumatic Gus Carriage	70	76
	20	410
MISCELLANEOUS STOCKS,		
Mergenthaler Linotype (new)	12174	12234
Lanston Monotype Washington Market	7	. 6
Washington Market	41	18
Court Valle Lan	110	T13.5

trade was explanatory of the inability of prices to make such headway in the direc-tion of improvement; that no loss was sustained was considered eminently satis factory in view of the slow condition of speculation. The news was in most par ticulars favorable to the bulls. The world's shipments last week were light at 3,723. 600 bushels. America furnishing more than half; the visible decreased 1,407,000 bushels, a greater reduction than expected; the amount on ocean passage was

FINANCIAL.

EQUITABLE CO-OPERATIVE BUILDING ASSOCIATION.

Those who are purchasing property, or have mortgages to pay off, or contemplate building, should ascertain the terms upon which loans can be obtained from this as

are made at 6 per cent interest repayable in monthly installments Settlement in full or in part may be made at any time. When part of a loan is settled the monthly installments are reduced proportionately. No commissions are charged. Borrowers are extended every facility to return loans and pay for their

The EQUITABLE is a purely co-operative saving and loaning association. Further information as to terms, how to

proceed, etc., can be obtained upon appli-EQUITABLE BUILDING, 1003 F st.nw. Thomas Somerville, President. A. J. Schaffürt, Vice President.

George W. Casilear, 2d Vice President. John Joy Edson, Secretary. mh30,ap1

less by 400,000 hushels than on last Mo day, and crop reports were unfavorable. The Orange Judd Farmer made the condition of the growing winter wheat 83.5, against 87.0 last year, 85.3 in 1895. This is the lowest reported since 1885. Liverpool cables were unchanged to 1-4d. lower. A decline in the price of English consols was considered indicative of further political complication in Europe. Against these items of a buildsh type there were heavy Northwestern receipts-844 cars, against 394 last Monday and 535 a yeaago. Chicago received 14 cars and inspected out 63,500 bushels. The English visible supply decreased 224,000 bushels Export clearances were liberal at 421,361 bushels. Closing Paris cables were partly lower to partly higher: Berlin was lower and Antwerp unchanged. May wheat opened from 72.7-8 to 73, sold between 72.3-4 and 73.3-8, viosing at 73.1-8-3-8 higher than Saturday. Cash wheat was firm and slightly higher. Receipts at principal Western points, 591,154 bushels; shipments, 122,846 bushels. Receipts at Eastern points, 67,741 bushels; shipments, 169,388 bushels.

Chicago Grain and Provision Market

	Open.	High.	Low.	Closing
WHEAT.	72% 71V	7374	2%	7314
July CORN.	31%	13% 11%	2036-1	7136
May July OATS.	3% 55%	.6%	DIN-M EN	24% .5%
May July	17 % 18	17.56 1854	17.32	17% 18%
May July LARD.	8 70 2.60	5,85 8,62	8.40 8.50	8.52 8.62
May July	1.15 4.25	4,20	4.15 4.25	4,20 4,82
MayJuly	£57	4,07	4,52	4.57

FINE PRINTS ON TICKETS.

Supreme Court Decision Annuls Conditions in Small Type.

Fine type provisions in ocean passenger contracts must be brought directly to the notice of passengers, if the steamship companies desire to avail themselves of their benefit. This is the ananimous conclusion of the Supreme Court, as announced yesterday by Chief Justice Fuller.

The case at the bar was that of Grace Howard Potter et al., daughters of Howard Potter, of New York, and their maid, versus the Oceanic Steamship Company. The ladies traveled on the steamer Majestic from Liverpool to New York in January, 1892. On the voyage the hold was flooded with sea water through a broken port hole, and their baggage damaged to the amount of \$2,300. For this amount a libel was laid against the steamer, in the federal court for the Southern district or New York.

The steamship company answered, setting op in defense, the provisions in fine type on the contract for transportation or ticket issued for the passage. By the terms of these the company renouncediability for damages from perils of the sea or the act of God, and in any event the lia-bility was limited to \$50. The evidence showed that neither Mr. Potter, who bought the ticket, nor the young ladies, had read the provisions, and as it was an English contract, the chief justice said, it could not be held as a matter of law that the putchasers were bound by them, unless the company had taken reasonable precautions to bring them to the notice of the passengers. Whether or not the bresking of the porthole was an act of God, the court said there was no evidence introduced to show that the accident, if it was such, could not have been averted by human foresight and prudence. judgment of the district court against the steamship company for \$2,300 was

Shall the District Troop Go?

To the Editor of The Times: I should like to make a suggestion re-garding the unveiling of the Grant Me-morial in New York. The different States ways send the State militia to participate in the inauguration, and I think Congress should make an appropriation tesend the National Guard of the District to New York. Congress has never yet sent the militin outside of the District. I think it would be an honor to have the District of Columbia represented there next month.

MILITIA.

FINANCIAL,

The National Safe Deposit, Savings and Trust Company Of the District of Columbia

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fan., 1867, and acts of Oct., 1890, and Feb., 1892.

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Correspondents of Messrs. Moore & Schley,
80 Broadway,
Bankers and Dealers in Government Bonds.
Deposits Exchange Loans.
Ruitroad Stocks and Bonds and all securities listed on the exchanges of New York,
Philladelphia, Boston and Baltimore bought
and sold.
A specialty made of investment securities. and sold.
A specialty made of investment scenilles.
A specialty made of investment scenilles.
A specialty made of investment scenilles.
A special sold and all local Railroad, Gas, Insurance and Telephone Stock dealt in.
A merican Bell Telephone Stock bought and scid.

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T. J. Hodgen & Co. Brokers and Dealers,

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back tour through some of the less frequented parts of Ireland as a correspondent of a London newspaper. Beginning at the north and working southward, I found myself, about the end of October, at the small village of Kikrea, three hours ride west of Cork. Here I was hospitably entertained by Father O'Hea, the local priest, a man of education and intelligence. During my two days' stay with him, we became great friends; we discussed politics, literature and society, and brewed poteen. At parting, he gave me as a keepsake an old leather-bound volume, in manuscript, of the sixteenth century. From the first glance I cast through it, before slipping it into my pocket, I judged it a sort of private family chronicle, certain to be curious, and possibly valuable. And O'Hea, with a nod of the head, and peculiar smile on his broad, genial countenance, said: "Faith, me dear friend, ye'll find mare tales in it, but don't ye be reading it afther dark." I recognized the value of this advice later.

and rode off. My objective point was Ballynean, to the south and west; but the roads were bad and not easy to find. The country was very desolate, though beautiful in its own sad way-bare hills, empty valleys, rolling naked pastures, destitute of cultivation, cattle, or human beings. Sometimes I saw in the distance the roofless ruin of a cabin, with perhaps a tree growing out of the midst of it. But no Ballynean hove in sight. At 3 o'clock I halted by a stream, watered my horse, and ate a meal of bread and cheese. Pefore I had finished there was a threatening mass of clouds in the west, and in a very short time the storm was upon me.

Meanwhile I hade him a hearty good-by

It was All Halloween-when, according to Irish superstition, fairles, ghosts, and goblins are free to hold carnival. I soot began to think that the storm must be of their raising. The rain lashed the ground fiercely; the wind hissed past me in bewildering gosts; it grew darker and darker; the weird noises and the electrical phenomena confused the senses. I finally allowed my horse to take what course he would.

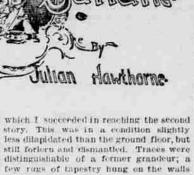
He forged doggedly ahead, and after an hour or two of uphili and down-hill work I saw on my left a gleam as of the waters of a lake, while on the right rose an acclivity, just visible against the sky, the markiness of which, rovered as it was the height I seemed to discern the recing on my borse, soon came beneath the then. walls of the edifice.

deep rift in the clouds the moon shore out. The storm was over, just when it had become indifferent to me whether it con-tinued or not another instance of con-scious mischief on the part of the hob-gothlins. The house was built of stone and seemed to be large and rambling it was neither a castle nor an ordinary dwelling: It belonged to the type of country seats often net with in England; was evidently very ancient and bad long since ceased to be inhabited. I found my way to the entrance, and, riding through it, got

rooms on the ground floor. I took out my match safe, which luckily was filled with wax matches, and set out on a journey of exploration.

What a grim and strange old labyrinth it was! Room opened into room interminably and irregularly, the floors were rotten, the plaster had fallen from the

in a distant part of the building. I laid down the book and listened; and I must confess that for a few moments



and there were carvings on the woodwork, though much decayed and defaced. At length I entered a room which seemed in better preservation than the others, and here I resolved to pass the night. The room was comparatively small, be-ing not more than twenty-five feet long:

there was a door at each end; a fireplace on the right, and on the left side two narrow wimlow slits, sunk deep in the thickness of the wall. Through these slits the moonlight fell across the oaken floor. The first necessity was a fire; and in

order to get fuel, I was obliged to tear away strips of wainscoting, thereby causing great consternation among the colonies of mice, rats and beetles that had made their home behind it for generations. It came away easily, however, being indeed almost ready to drop with age; and it burnt like tinder. I know not how many matiorial rights of house martens the fire



At Length I Found a Stairway.

with lowering clouds, was somewhatlight- may have violated as it rouged up the ened by the boson, though the moon itself | chimney, for did that consideration interwas of course invisible. As I peered up | fere with my enjoyment of the heat and light. As the molstore evaporated from tangular outline of a building surmounting garments, so did the uneasiness from my it. There were no lights in it: but the nerves; insometh that I should not have occupants might have gone to bed, or it been scriously disturbed had a banshee might be deserted. At all events, I resolved to spend the night there, and, arguing the hearth beside me-atleast, so I thought

I now searched my pack for something At the same moment the wind died away, to eat, but found only some fragms * the rain ceased to fail, and through a of bread, sadly disintegrated by water. and a single rind of cheese. This was little enough, but better than nothing; besides, there was a finger or two of whisky left in my flask, and plenty of tobacco in my rather pooch. I seen began to feel reasonably comfortable. While bunning through my pockets I had come across the little leather-bound volume given me by Father O'Hea; it had fortunately suffered but little from the rain, and I undid its clasp and attempted to read it. It was written in the angula hand of the period, and was legible into a coortyard, the stone pavement of enough in one sense; but the language which was overgrown with vegetation, of the period, and the contractions were so numerous that I made little headway. walls of the building, with numerous un- It was, as I had surmised, in the nature glazed windows revealed duskily in the of a family obranicle, and the family Stabling my borse in one of the open over page after page. I found, in the latter part of the volume, something that looked like a bit of rounded narrative; but before I had mastered a dozen lines not

the loudest sound I heard was the beat



But Soon the Other Noise Was Repeated.

walls, damp fungus growth covered the ing of my own heart. But soon the other noise was repeated. It was notlike mytring I had heard during my exploration of the ceiling. Mysterious objects half defined themselves in the glimmer cast by the tiny tapers, which I kept lighting one after great house. A conversation between sev-eral persons was being carried on in some another, and black stadows seemed to neighboring room. The voices were muf-march on either side of me. The noise | fled by the intervening partition, but they of my footsteps awakened muttering were unmistakably human voices, some masculine, some feminine; and occasion echoes in distant regions, and now and then the ghostly flitting of a bat or an ally there was a metallic or clinking noise, owl made me catch my breath. There were soft whisperings in remote corners, and sounds like sight, and low chucklings, alone in this venerable rule, and that the and stealthy footfalls. Nor did the fact | other occupants were enjoying a comfortthat I was wet, cold and hungry diminish able supper.

Now, my first feeling had certainly been

the effect which all this exercised upon my nervous system.

At length I found a stairway, built of second thought tended to reassure me.

stone, but partly in ruins, by means of . Either a portion of the house was still AMUSEMENTS.

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inhabited, or else some party, driven as I had been to seek shelter from the storm, had established themselves there for the night, and were taking put lock together. In any event, I determined to present myinference was inevitable that I was not self to them and to trust to their hos pitality for the rest. My appetite was by no means satisfied; and, whoever my neighbors were, they could hardly fail to be preferable to the ghostly solitude I had been supporting.

To be Concluded.

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PROPOSALS.

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